

In the Claims

1. (Currently amended) An isolated neuron survival-promoting peptide having consisting of the sequence of CHEASAAQC (SEQ ID NO.: 1) or a variant thereof, said variant comprising between 1-9 conservative amino acid substitutions of SEQ ID NO.: 1, and said variant including SEQ ID NO.: 2.

2. (Canceled) The neuron survival-promoting peptide of claim 1, said peptide having 1-9 conservative amino acid substitutions.

3. (Original) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising the neuron survival-promoting peptide of claim 1, in a biologically acceptable carrier.

4-21. (Previously Canceled)

22. (Currently amended) A kit for treating a neurodegenerative disorder or inflammatory disorder in a patient comprising:

- a) ~~an isolated CHEC-9 peptide as set forth in claim 1~~ consisting of the sequence of CHEASAAQC (SEQ ID NO.: 1), or a variant thereof, said variant comprising between 1-9 conservative amino acid substitutions of SEQ ID NO.: 1, and said variant including SEQ ID NO.: 2;
- b) a pharmaceutical excipient; and optionally
- c) a vehicle for administration, such as a syringe or catheter, and instructional material.

23-24. (Previously Cancelled)